

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AMERICANS OBSERVE "NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER"

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Thursday, May 4 marks the 44th consecutive observance of the National Day of Prayer.

I congratulate all those Americans who will pause on that date to thank God for the blessings He has bestowed on our country, and to ask for His continued guidance for our Nation, its people and its leaders.

Even as we mourn the senseless tragedy that occurred in Oklahoma City which killed and injured so many of our fellow citizens and brought sadness to so many other Americans, we have much for which to be thankful.

We are free to practice—or not practice—the religion of our choice. We are free to think for ourselves and believe what we wish, and we are free to voice our opinions without fear. We are blessed with a free press that keeps us informed of what is right, and what is wrong, with our Government and our other public institutions.

In comparison to other nations of the world, we are a prosperous people—well-fed, well-housed and well-clothed. Our system does not guarantee success for every one of our citizens, but it does allow each American to advance as high as his talents and hard work can carry him.

Yes, our Nation has problems, and yes, there is injustice in our country. But in the United States, more than in any other nation in the world, all of our people have an opportunity to succeed. That opportunity is what drew immigrants to "the new world" in the 17th century; it's what drew settlers to "the colonies" in the 18th century; it's what motivated countless men and women to settle the West in the 19th century; and it's what continues to draw men and women from around the world to our shores in the 20th century.

Just as important, we Americans have in place a judicial system within which injustices can be eliminated, and within which wrongs can be righted peacefully, without resolve to violence. While our system of justice is not perfect, and while mistakes can occur, no one can deny the fact that America's judicial system has served our country and our people well for more than two centuries.

The idea that we Americans should pause and reflect on our blessings, and ask for God's guidance, is nothing new. National day of prayer have been part of our Nation's heritage since the first one was declared by the Continental Congress in 1775. Through the influence of Gen. George Washington, many of our founding fathers and succeeding presidents, prayer became an essential foundation upon which the United States of America was established and upon which it has grown.

On Thursday, through the collective prayers of citizens from every State and territory of our country, all Americans will have the opportunity to acknowledge our dependence upon God; recognize our need to renew moral values in our personal and professional lives; seek God's guidance for our Nation's governmental and community leaders; give thanks for the many blessings which our country has received from Him through the years; pledge ourselves to the restoration of marriage and family commitments; and intercede for healing and reconciliation within our Nation.

The participation of millions of American men and women in this year's National Day of Prayer will ensure that the event will be a success. As someone who believes in the power of prayer, and as someone who depends upon prayer in my daily life—both personal and professional—I sincerely thank everyone who takes part in this important annual event, as well as every American who keeps the interests of our nation, its people and its leaders in their prayers on a daily basis.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and may God bless you, our great Nation, and each and every American.

SALUTE TO THE GLENS FALLS ARMORY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, for 100 years, the Glens Falls Armory has been a conspicuous landmark on Warren Street and a source of pride for the people of this small city I call home.

During those 100 years, units headquartered at the armory have served in both world wars. At the outbreak of World War I, Company K, 105th Infantry, 27th Division was activated from August 8, 1917, through April 1, 1919. In World War II, Company K of the 108th Infantry, 27th Division was activated from October 15, 1940, through December 31, 1945.

The armory was designed by the famous architect Isaac G. Perry, who helped design and construct the State Capital in Albany. The armory consists of 24,055 square feet, including a garage added in 1959.

First opened in 1895 to house a company of the New York National Guard, the armory presently serves as headquarters for two NYNG units, the 646th Medical Company and Detachment 1, Company C, 3d Battalion, 108th Infantry.

That first unit, the 18th Separate Company, was also known as the Rockwell Corps or the Citizens Corp. And that, Mr. Speaker, reminds me why the armory is so special.

It's a symbol of the citizen soldier who has fought in all our wars, from Concord and Lexington to the arid plains of Iraq.

The backbone of our Armed Forces for 200 years has been the National Guard and Reserves, men and women from every walk of life who proudly devote several hours a month to the defense of their country.

The response of this country to crises has always been speeded by the high state of readiness of our guardsmen and reservists. I can't tell you how proud I am of them.

The men and women who serve in these units are all-around outstanding citizens, contributing to their communities in more ways than one. The armory itself has long been a focus of community life in the Glens Falls area.

Mr. Speaker, on May 6, the scene will be the scene of a centennial celebration, complete with tours, displays, and speeches.

I ask all Members to join me in a salute to the Glens Falls Armory and to all the patriotic Americans who have served there over the last 100 years.

SUE MIKOLAJCZYK RECEIVES 1995 POLISH HERITAGE AWARD

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Sue Mikolajczyk on receiving the Pulaski Council of Milwaukee's 1995 Polish Heritage Award.

In selecting Sue Mikolajczyk as the 1995 Polish Heritage Award recipient, the Pulaski Council has honored a woman who has devoted countless hours of work to preserving the richness of Milwaukee's Polish-American heritage.

It has long been a goal of our community to build a Polish-American Community Center. This goal is closer to becoming a reality because of the commitment, hard work, and sheer determination of people like Sue Mikolajczyk. Her outstanding efforts as coordinator of Polishfest's weekly bingo games have helped to ensure a steady source of funds for the development of the community center and more importantly, have helped to sustain the dream which guides our Polish-American community forward.

In addition to her involvement with Polishfest, Sue Mikolajczyk has been actively involved in a number of other Polish cultural organizations in our area and has assumed leadership positions in several of these organizations. Groups such as the Polish National Alliance, the Polish-American Congress, Polanki, and the Polish Womens' Alliance have all benefited from Sue's talents, determination, and willingness to take charge.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

At a time when it seems that more and more people are forgetting their roots, Milwaukee's Polish-American heritage, thanks to the efforts of people like Sue Mikolajczyk, remains as alive and vibrant as ever. I commend Sue on her outstanding efforts on behalf of Milwaukee's Polish-American community and I congratulate her on receiving the 1995 Polish Heritage Award.

RECOGNIZING THE "DEAN OF CALIFORNIA CITY ATTORNEYS"
MR. ALLEN E. SPRAGUE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to pay tribute to city attorney Allen E. Sprague for his dedicated years of service to the city of Fremont. During his tenure, Mr. Sprague has provided strong leadership to a city which has risen to new heights.

After graduating from University of California Boalt Law School, Mr. Sprague was hired as the city of Fremont's assistant city attorney in 1963. Six years later, he was appointed as their city attorney, thus attaining the title of "Dean of California City Attorneys," as the longest serving, continuous, and surviving city attorney in northern California. Mr. Sprague served as counsel to 18 separate city councils, and as a mentor to numerous staff members who have gone on to serve other California cities as city attorneys. During a difficult transitional period, Mr. Sprague also acted as interim city manager in 1980 and 1981.

Mr. Sprague's community commitment goes well beyond his years with the city. He was an active participant with the Kiwanis International Club for 20 years, where he served as local chapter president, regional and national officer. Mr. Sprague also shared his fellowship as a lay Eucharist minister at St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Fremont and by raising the spirits and bringing comfort to those in need as a volunteer with the Vespers Hospice.

Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to recognize Mr. Allen E. Sprague for all his achievements and commitment to our community. I hope you and my colleagues will join me in congratulating this leader for his illustrious career and wish him and his family well in their future endeavors.

HAPPY 50TH BRONNER'S CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, there have been many times when we have wished it could be Christmas 365 days of the year. The special feeling that this wonderful holiday inspires enlightens us, and helps us to focus on kindness toward all.

Well, the people who work at Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland should be the envy

of us all because for them it is Christmas every day of the year. This Wednesday, Bronner's, the world's largest Christmas store, celebrates its 50th anniversary at its store on 25 Christmas Lane in Frankenmuth, MI. This fantastic store, operated by Wallace "Wally" Bronner, supported by his parents, Herman and Ella Bronner, started as a small sign store to its current enviable position of offering a selection of more than 50,000 items from all over the world. The design and production of Christmas panels for merchants from Clare, MI, marked the first official sale of Christmas decorations to other communities.

Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland is a must-see holiday store for the consumer. And it is also a major supplier for churches, businesses, industries, cities, parks, shopping centers, parades and parties. It is a family-owned and operated business, now including its third generation of Bronners, that has grown from its early days as a small sign shop through several expansions that now allow it to boast a showroom equal to the size of four football fields. At peak time, more than 400 people are employed on a full or part-time basis at this manger of holiday spirit. Much of the merchandise is imported from other manufacturers, but the most special pieces include those designed and produced by Wally Bronner himself.

And not forgetting that the true part of Christmas is its religious heritage; Wally, Irene and other members of the Bronner family 3 years ago opened Bronner's Silent Night Memorial Chapel to both signify their thanks for God's blessings, as well as to provide an opportunity for the millions of people who surely visit Bronner's over the years to pause and offer their own thanks for what life has given them.

Mr. Speaker, Frankenmuth is a community that speaks volumes about what commitment to one's neighbor and hard work can accomplish. Like a sturdy tree, it supports many branches that extend through its commercial, agricultural, educational, and social greatness. It is filled with people who we would all like to have as our own neighbors. When it is crowned with the bright star of Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland, the decoration of this tree is truly complete. I urge you and all of our colleagues to wish the Bronner family and the hundreds of dedicated, good-spirit inspiring employees the very best on the 50th anniversary of Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland.

IN RECOGNITION OF HELAINE STRAUSS

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride to share with my colleagues in the House of Representatives the inspiring story of a woman who has been an active member of the Jewish community in Suffolk County for many years, Helaine Strauss.

Helaine Strauss became a Jewish community center professional on Long Island in

1967. This began a lifetime career in which she vastly changed the landscape of Long Island's Jewish community.

In 1980, a determined board of directors, Suffolk County Y staff and Helaine took a bold step forward. They moved the Y into a brand new setting that provided the first Jewish day care center in the United Jewish Appeal [UJA] federation network, as well as a nursery school, a senior citizen and singles' center. In addition to these conveniences, the Y developed and installed a state-of-the-art fitness center.

When the initial construction of this enormous project was completed, Ms. Strauss breathed a sigh of relief and embarked on a new project: building bridges. Today, the Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center joins with a multitude of Jewish agencies, synagogues and community organizations sponsoring innovative programs and services.

Ms. Strauss' leadership has been widely recognized. She is past president of the New York chapter of the Metropolitan Association of Jewish Center Workers and participated in Jewish Welfare Board's Executive Development Program and the Jewish Community Center Association's Executive Fellows Program. Ms. Strauss serves on the nation board of the Jewish Community Center Association and on the advisory board of the Adelphi School of Social Work. She received the Woman of the Year Award from Friends of Lubavitch of eastern Long Island.

In 1985, Ms. Strauss received the Samuel W. and Rose Horowitz award from the Commission on Synagogue Relations of UJA-Federation of New York, and she has also been honored by the Women's American Organization of Rehabilitation Training (ORT).

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join with me in saluting Ms. Helaine Strauss, for 20 years of outstanding service, commitment and devotion to not only the Suffolk Y, but the entire Jewish community of Suffolk County, Long Island.

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS V.F.W.

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, 75 years ago this summer, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 420 was established in Saratoga Springs, NY. The V.F.W., Mr. Speaker, has been and continues to be an organization of exceptional merit and service to the needs of many veterans. V.F.W. Post 420 was founded upon these principles in the summer of 1920, and continues to serve and remember those veterans who made sacrifices for America.

Post 420 was founded as a memorial to two brothers who courageously fought for America in WWI. On October 20, 1918, the Gurtler brothers were both killed in battle along the Hindenburg line in Germany. It is only appropriate that those brave men who placed themselves in harm's way overseas be represented by such an able organization.

Mr. Speaker, it is comforting to know that those who served the needs of our country

and fought for the principles and ideas of America all over the globe can depend on the support of an organization like this post back home in upstate New York.

Mr. Speaker, the service of Post 420 in Saratoga Springs is worthy of significant recognition. This post, and others like it, are the reason I fought so hard to attain department-level status for Veterans' Affairs. When President Ronald Reagan signed that legislation into law, veterans were finally afforded the degree of national consideration they deserve. The efforts of V.F.W. posts like this one, having served the needs of veterans since 1920, played a major role in the grassroots efforts by V.F.W. posts across this Nation to enact that bill into law. For this, Mr. Speaker, we owe Post 420 a tremendous debt.

The famous historian George Santayana once said, "Those who do not remember history are bound to repeat it." V.F.W. posts all across America have not forgotten the past or those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. I ask all my fellow Members to rise in tribute to V.F.W. Post 420 in Saratoga Springs on the occasion of their 75th Anniversary.

**JANET BANACH NAMED 1995
POLISH WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Janet Banach on being named 1995 Polish Woman of the Year by the ladies auxiliary of the Polish National Alliance—Milwaukee Society.

Janet Banach is a person who is genuinely committed to well-being of others and to the betterment of her community. By selecting Janet as the 1995 Polish Woman of the Year, the Milwaukee Society—ladies auxiliary is rightfully recognizing a person who has devoted her time and talents to a wide variety of worthwhile activities.

Over the years, Janet Banach has been actively involved in a number of organizations dedicated to assisting the needy and less fortunate. Through her volunteer involvement with organizations such as the American Red Cross, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, the SHARE Program, and the South Community Organization, Janet has transformed her concern for others into effective action. Through her involvement as a Cub Scout and Brownie leader Janet has helped to prepare our community's future leaders for the challenges that lay ahead.

Janet has also shown herself to be a person committed to her Catholic faith and her Polish-American heritage. Janet is a long-time member of Milwaukee's Holy Spirit Parish. Both she and her husband take an active role in sharing their faith with others through their parish activities. In addition, through her involvement with organizations such as the Polish National Alliance—Milwaukee Society and Polish Festivals Inc., Janet plays an active role in keeping Milwaukee's Polish-American heritage alive.

I would like to commend Janet on her outstanding and worthwhile achievements and I congratulate her on being named 1995 Polish Woman of the Year.

**OPENING OF EXHIBIT "DEFENDING
RELIGIOUS LIBERTY": THE
STORY OF THE BAHAIS**

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call attention to the Members and the general public of the opening of an exhibit entitled "Defending Religious Liberty," on view in the rotunda of the Cannon House Office Building, U.S. House of Representatives, May 2-5, 1995.

The focus of the exhibit is on repression of the Bahai community and portrays America's concern for religious freedom and the response of the United States and other nations to the persecution of members of Iran's largest religious minority.

Those who practice the Bahai faith number 6 million in more than 205 countries with more than 100,000 worshipers in the United States. The Islamic regime calls the Bahai faith a conspiracy and heresy. Followers have no legal rights and secret documents show official Government policy is suppression of the Bahai community. Bahai students have been expelled from schools, followers have been denied food ration cards, dismissed from jobs and denied pensions. Many have disappeared, been kidnapped, jailed, tortured, and executed on account of their religion.

Congress has acknowledged that the abusive treatment of the Bahais is a critical human rights concern. Although diplomatic pressure and critical publicity has elicited a positive response from the Iranian Government the Bahai community remains an oppressed minority, denied the right to elect leaders, conduct religious schools, and pursue other organized religious activities.

Bahai members are composed of the mainstream of people, from different races, nationalities, and social and economic backgrounds. They believe that all people are meant to live in peace and unity and should be supported in their continuing efforts to protest against the Iranian Government's persecution of Bahais.

Mr. Speaker, I hope this exhibit will remind us of the oppression of our fellow human beings. We must continue to direct our efforts toward resolving these crimes against humanity. Therefore, I propose we should never resume trade or diplomatic relations until the Islamic Revolutionary regime reverses their policy.

**SCHEURER HOSPITAL: CELEBRATING
50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY
CARING**

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, this past week I was privileged to join a great number of people who came together to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of Scheurer Hospital in Pigeon, MI. The many people in Huron County and around the western portion of the Thumb of Michigan who have been helped by the quality medical care provided by the dedicated staff at this facility over the years know a quality institution when they have the good fortune to be served by it.

Scheurer Hospital is named for Dr. Clare Scheurer, a physician who in 1944 was convinced that a new medical facility was needed for the people in the area who either overfilled his office, couldn't be served within the hours he had available for treating patients, or were too far away following surgery in the Bad Axe Hospital. Donations from friends and businesses in the area helped lead to the construction of the then 21-bed hospital, and its official opening on April 23, 1945. Mrs. C.H. Spence was the first patient admitted, and her daughter, Margaret, was the first baby born at the hospital.

Over the years this facility continued to provide excellent elective and emergency care to patients, until it was replaced by the current 47-bed hospital in 1971. And an expansion and modernization program in 1985 provided more examination rooms, and an improved laboratory and pharmacy. This project was again heavily supported by the community served by this most important facility.

Today the thousands of people who live in Scheurer Hospital's service area know that they can count on the 28 doctors, 40 nurses, and nearly 170 other professionals that are part of the dedicated Scheurer team under the direction of Chief Executive Officer Dwight Gascho for a wide range of medical services including orthopedics, cardiology, nuclear medicine, micro eye surgery. In the hospital's last fiscal year, there were over 3,500 emergency room visits, nearly 5,800 redi-care visits, and 600 admissions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing the wonderful staff of Scheurer Hospital the very best of wishes on their 50th anniversary.

HONORING JOYCE TOBIAS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to one of Virginia's outstanding citizens, Joyce Tobias.

Joyce Tobias, a registered nurse and the mother of seven children, has been a community organizer and a parent and child advocate

since 1967. A tribute dinner was held in her honor Friday, April 28th on the occasion of PANDAA's [Parents Association to Neutralize Drug and Alcohol Abuse] 15th anniversary. Joyce founded PANDAA in 1980 and has served as executive director, newsletter editor, and member of the board of directors since its founding. The organization greatly contributes to parents awareness of drug abuse among young children and gives hope and support to parents and children alike who face those problems.

PANDAA, a volunteer organization, combats alcohol and other drug abuse through education and civic action. Under the leadership of Joyce Tobias, PANDAA publishes a quarterly newsletter with a national distribution of 10,000 copies, provides a hotline and referral service for parents, conducts adult and youth conferences, maintains a speakers bureau and assists in the formation of new groups.

Joyce was also a founding member of the Virginia Federation of Parents [VFP] in 1982 and served as its president in 1992 and 1993.

Along with her strong advocacy role in Fairfax County, she has served as a consultant for the U.S. Department of Education—1988–89—and other school districts across the country. She traveled to Brazil for the U.S. Information Agency in 1991, participated in electronic dialog with two countries in Africa, and represented the United States by speaking many foreign visitors through USIA.

Joyce is the author of "Kids and Drugs," a 126-page handbook for parents and professionals that has been translated in part into Portuguese and Arabic. Other publications include "Schools and Drugs," a handbook for parents and educators, and "Preparing for Parenthood: A Lamaze Childbirth and Postpartum Guide."

After teaching childbirth preparation for four years, Joyce founded FLAME [Family Life and Maternity Education Inc.] in 1971, an organization which teaches the Lamaze method of childbirth.

Joyce Tobias is a remarkable woman whose contributions to her community and her country as a leader and volunteer have made a difference. I know my colleagues join in honoring this outstanding woman.

FORT EDWARD FIRE DEPARTMENT DEMONSTRATES TRUE AMERICAN INGENUITY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I have always held a special place in my heart for volunteer fire companies and the invaluable service they provide the residents of small towns like those in my 22d Congressional District of New York. As a volunteer firefighter myself for 20 years, I understand the commitment necessary to fulfill such a role, regardless of the weather or the time of day. The members of the Fort Edward Fire Department have selflessly provided this vital service, and for that, we should all pay tribute.

However, Mr. Speaker, as if these people have not provided a great enough example of

community service, the members of this fire department will unveil this Saturday, May 6, 1995, another accomplishment we would all do well to emulate. The Fort Edward Fire Department will be holding a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the opening of their newly expanded and renovated fire station. This project, combining two separate branches of the fire department and providing much needed expansion and improvement of facilities, cost over \$400,000. However, the most notable accomplishment is that it will be financed without a single penny of public tax money. As we all strive to regain fiscal sanity in the public sector and encourage public service, the efforts of the volunteers who comprise the Fort Edward Fire Department are worthy of significant recognition. In a time where government spending and regulation seem to play a role in all aspects of American life, this achievement signifies an example of true American voluntarism and wherewithal which made our Nation the greatest in the world.

At the open house this Saturday, the fire company will be able to show off the improvements to the fine citizens of Fort Edward. They will exhibit the new rooms and offices they added to the station, the fine colors and carpeting they chose to decorate the hall where they will hold bingo nights, as well as other special events to help finance their project, and allow the children to climb all over the fire trucks in the expanded truck bays, all the while knowing they did so without spending any of the citizens hard-earned tax dollars. This is an accomplishment which we should all take comfort in commending. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask that all my fellow Members rise with me and salute the achievements of the Fort Edward Volunteer Fire Department, they truly exemplify the spirit of community service all Americans should strive to achieve.

IF YOU HAVE A JOB, YOU AREN'T
CAUSING INFLATION—GUESS
WHO IS?

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, the Orlando Sentinel recently featured an article which destroys numerous myths pertaining to inflation.

Mr. Charley Reese, author of the article, highlights congressional responsibility for inflation. He goes on to argue that economic progress has been hampered by inflation stemming from actions of the Federal Government and Federal Reserve System.

I commend to the attention of my colleagues "If you have a job, you aren't causing inflation—guess who is?"

IF YOU HAVE A JOB, YOU AREN'T CAUSING
INFLATION—GUESS WHO IS?

(By Charley Reese)

There's a big con game going on. The con is that politicians in both parties and the bankers talk about problems caused by inflation without mentioning that they cause it.

To hear the central bank talk about it, you would think inflation is caused by people

getting jobs. Uh, oh, the central bankers are saying, too many Americans have jobs, and so we had better increase the rates of usury to keep inflation under control.

In a country with so many millions of people unemployed and underemployed, it is impossible for people to cause inflation by getting a job. Even if we had 100 percent employment, people getting jobs would cause little if any inflation.

There are, to keep it simple, two kinds of inflation. One is called cost-push inflation and the other is monetary inflation. Politicians and money-lenders would like you to believe that cost-push inflation is the only kind that exists.

Not so. An example of cost-push would be a situation in which there were a great drought in the Midwest followed by a plague of locusts, so that the grain crop would be severely reduced. Because there would be insufficient grain to meet the demand, people would bid up the price in an effort to get what was available. That's cost-push: a rise in prices produced by an increased demand for a commodity or product.

Monetary inflation, however, is when the monetary authorities put so much money into the system that the value of each unit declines. Demand and working people have nothing to do with it. That type of inflation is entirely in the hands of the government and the central bank.

That's really what Mexico's peso crisis is all about. As it always does, the Mexican ruling party turned on the printing presses and greatly boosted the money supply during the election campaign. When this happens, eventually the monetary unit will decline in value.

As the value of the monetary unit declines, people are forced to raise prices just to maintain their same level of income. Because of continued deficits and the profligate policies of the Federal Reserve, the U.S. dollar has lost its value.

Money is not wealth. What one buys with money is wealth—houses, clothes, tools, services, etc. How much a given unit of money can buy is called purchasing power. Well, the purchasing power of the U.S. dollar, thanks entirely to Congress and the Federal Reserve, has declined so much that, if you made \$10,000 in 1967, you would have to make \$40,000 in 1995 just to be where you were 28 years ago. To put it another way, it takes \$4 today to buy what \$1 would buy in 1967.

But the key point to understand is that this is the fault of Congress, not the fault of the private sector. Back in the 1960s, Congress gave up any effort to maintain a stable money system and indexed—those famous cost-of-living allowances—most federal programs. It did that to take the sting out of inflation, a policy it was consciously pursuing, because it is more politically palatable than bringing the federal budget into balance and reining in the central bank.

But, of course, if you aren't on the federal teat, your income didn't get indexed to inflation. Inflation never affects people uniformly. Some can prosper; some can stay even; and some will fall behind.

What outrages me is to hear bankers and politicians talk about the real misery their inflationary policies have caused while pretending that it is not their fault but someone else's, either greedy consumers spending too much or some unexplained, uncontrollable mysterious "thing."

It's they. It's the 100 senators and the 435 members of the House. It's the Federal Reserve System, which Congress created and

which Congress could, if it had the sense and the guts, seriously reform or abolish. They caused the economic misery. Now they are blaming the victims.

BART ROWEN SET THE STANDARDS

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, On April 13, 1995, the pioneer of modern economic journalism Hobart Rowen, died, leaving a legacy of standards for the profession. International economic issues and events were Mr. Rowen's specialty. Through five decades of dedication and innovation devoted to economic journalism, Mr. Rowen reshaped the standards for the profession by bringing the sometimes arcane issues of international economics to mainstream America. He wrote so that readers could understand and appreciate the importance of economic events and the impact of international economics on their lives. Whether the subject was international trade, monetary policy, or exchange rates, Mr. Rowen's knowledge and journalistic style put him in a league of his own. I most recently spoke to Mr. Rowen in February this year about the Mexican peso crisis. His knowledge, insight, and willingness to question traditional economic assumptions were clearly demonstrated on this issue. Mr. Rowen will be missed, but his legacy to economic journalism has set the standard for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting for the RECORD, a copy of Mr. Rowen's obituary that appeared in the Washington Post on April 14. **ECONOMICS JOURNALIST HOBART ROWEN DIES; REPORTER AND FINANCIAL EDITOR AT THE POST**

(By Claudia Levy and Bart Barnes)

Hobart Rowen, 76, an economics reporter and editor at The Washington Post who played an important role in bringing coverage of business news and economics into the mainstream of American journalism, died of cancer April 13 at his home in Bethesda.

Mr. Rowen, a leading economics journalist for five decades, joined the news staff of The Post in 1966. He was a pioneer in bringing economic news to Page One and was known for his ability to explain domestic and global economics in terms that helped readers relate them to their own bread-and-butter issues.

His work took him to conferences around the world, to the boardrooms of industry and business and to the seats of power in Washington and other national capitals. In his news stories and syndicated columns, Mr. Rowen broke new ground on such issues as fiscal and monetary policy, the implications of appointments to the Federal Reserve Board and the actions of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

"He was the first economics reporter of his generation who could go to a press conference about economics and know more than the guy who gave it," said Benjamin C. Bradlee, the former executive editor of The Post, who hired Mr. Rowen "to bring the newspaper's business coverage from nowhere to somewhere."

When Mr. Rowen arrived at The Post, the paper's business and financial staff consisted of one editor, two assistants and a news aide, and most of its coverage was devoted to promotions and retirements at local businesses. Today, The Post's business section includes a staff of 55 with bureaus in New York and Tokyo.

In addition to his work in print journalism, Mr. Rowen appeared frequently on television broadcasts such as "Washington Week in Review," "Nightly Business News," "Meet the Press" and "Face the Nation."

"We have lost one of this nation's pre-eminent economic journalists," Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin said yesterday at a speech in Los Angeles. "He was a leader in bringing to the fore those issues which are so central to the economic debate."

Mr. Rowen was born in Burlington, Vt. He grew up in New York and graduated from the City College of New York. In 1938, he joined the Journal of Commerce in New York as a copy boy and nine months later was hired on as a reporter to cover commodities.

He took courses at the New York Stock Exchange and wrote a pamphlet on futures trading. He was assigned to the paper's Washington bureau in 1941 to cover the new defense agencies and show their interaction with business.

Mr. Rowen took a two-year break from journalism during World War II to work as a public relations specialist with the information division of the War Production Board.

In 1944, he joined the Washington bureau of Newsweek, writing a business trends page for the magazine that interpreted news for the business community. Until joining The Post at the invitation of former Newsweek colleague Bradlee, Mr. Rowen remained with the news magazine.

As financial editor and assistant managing editor for business and finance at The Washington Post, Mr. Rowen oversaw the launching of the newspaper's Sunday Business section and an expansion of its business coverage. He continued his column and broke many stories, including a prediction that dollar devaluation and wage-price controls would be imposed before those events occurred in 1971.

In 1967, he drew the wrath of the Johnson administration with a story quoting a "high government official" to the effect that costs of the war in Vietnam would rise sharply above official estimates. It turned out later that the unnamed official was William McChesney Martin, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

Mr. Rowen returned to full-time writing in 1975, and in 1978, he was named international economics correspondent. He said he found the beat increasingly important because in many respects Washington, not New York or London, had become the financial capital of the United States and of the world. He covered the fluctuation of the dollar and other currencies, third World economics, international trade and world economic summits.

In addition to his twice-a-week column, "Economic Impact," he contributed to publications, including Harpers and the New Republic.

His books included "The Free Enterprisers: Kennedy, Johnson and the Business Establishment," "The Fall of the President and Bad Times and Beyond" and "Self-Inflicted Wounds: From LBJ's Guns and Butter to Reagan's Voodoo Economics," published last year.

"Self-Inflicted Wounds" told a story of "blunder, mismanagement, stupidity and irresponsibility by officials whose chief obliga-

tion to govern the nation was betrayed by their embrace of politics misconceived and ineptly applied." This had led the nation on a path of "slow but steady self-strangulation," he wrote.

In 1992, Mr. Rowen wrote for The Washington Post Health section about the misdiagnosis of his prostate cancer that led to incorrect treatment at Georgetown University Hospital. He emphasized the need for a second opinion, even at the nation's most prestigious medical institutions.

Mr. Rowen's honors included Gerald Loeb awards for best economics column, for a piece on problems faced by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and for lifetime achievement. He also received the distinguished service award for magazine writing from the Sigma Delta Chi journalism honorary society.

He also received the John Hancock award, the A.T. Kearney award and the Townsend Harris medal of CCNY. He was elected to the Hall of Fame of the D.C. chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists and won the first professional achievement award of the Society of American Business Editors and Writers.

Mr. Rowen served on the Town Council of Somerset in Chevy Chase from 1957 to 1965 and was president of the Society of American Business Writers and the Washington professional chapter of Sigma Delta Chi. He was a member of the National Press Club, the National Economists Club and the Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild.

Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Alice Stadler Rowen of Chevy Chase; three children, Judith Vereker of London, James Rowen of Milwaukee and Daniel Rowen of New York City; and five grandchildren.

AFFIRMING EQUALITY IN RHODE ISLAND

HON. GERRY E. STUDDS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. STUDDS. Mr. Speaker, on March 19, the Rhode Island House of Representatives approved legislation to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. If, as expected, the bill clears the Senate and is signed by the Governor, Rhode Island will become the ninth State to provide such protections to its citizens.

This milestone was marked by the Providence Sunday Journal of April 2, 1995, in a superb column by M. Charles Bakst which I am proud to insert in the RECORD.

The article describes the passage of this legislation through the eyes of one of the people who worked hard to bring it about. His name is Marc Paige. Among other things, he is gay and living with AIDS. He is also a former member of my campaign staff whom I am proud to call my friend. His personal journey is a familiar story for all who grow up gay in our society, and the families and friends who love them.

The article follows:

[From the Providence Sunday Journal, Apr. 2, 1995]

GAY RIGHTS ACTIVIST SAVORS BIG VICTORY

(By M. Charles Bakst)

When the House last week passed the gay rights bill, supporters of the measure were

joyful. One of them, watching from a gallery seat, was Marc Paige of Cranston.

He is 37. He is a gay activist. He is Jewish. And he has AIDS.

Paige is part of the army that has long fought for this measure to ban discrimination against homosexuals in employment, credit, housing, and accommodations. It has kicked around the capitol for 11 years and now, having survived the House, appears headed for Senate passage and signing by Governor Almond.

"All Rhode Islanders won today," Paige enthused after Wednesday's House vote. And, of course, he was right. Whenever society takes a stand against discrimination against anyone, it is a victory for everyone. But if you sit and talk with Paige, you will get a better appreciation of why this bill has such meaning for gays and lesbians, and of the hurt and pride that motivate him to seek its passage.

If the bill is enacted, he says, it will be a "very big deal." Though not transforming society overnight, it will be a start:

"It's going to give gay people the knowledge that they do have recourse if they are discriminated against. And it's going to, hopefully—and I have no delusions that it's going to be in my lifetime—make things easier for, particularly, the children who realize that they're gay, that they're lesbian. Because it pains me the most to know that kids today are still experiencing the isolation, the fear, that I had to go through. Being a teenager is hard enough. These are needless, senseless, tragic emotions that they have to deal with.

Paige, who has helped organize demonstrations against anti-gay-rights legislators, can be as militant as they come. But he also can sound gentle, and sunny.

A friend, former Sundun administration staff chief Dave Cruise, says, "He's an amazing person. With what his future holds for him, he doesn't bear ill will toward anyone."

Paige tested HIV-positive in 1989. He says this was a result of unprotected gay sex years earlier in a less enlightened age. By 1993, he had full-blown AIDS.

"I feel sometimes like I'm living with a time bomb inside me," he says. "And I know that I could get very sick. But I'm starting new treatments and I'm trying to stay healthy as long as possible and I take it a day at a time."

He adds, "I couldn't say for sure that I'm going to be here for my niece's bar mitzvah, which will be in three years. I'd say it's even money. But we don't know what will be developed, so there's always hope. As long as you're breathing, there's hope."

He grew up in a middle-class family.

As a teenager, he realized he was gay—and that he felt isolated.

"Teenagers especially want to fit in, and, when you're gay, when you're lesbian, you don't fit in. So then I threw my energy into other causes. I was very involved with B'nai B'rith youth . . . I worked very hard on Jewish causes, on Israel."

He was a student at Cranston West and he was still in the closet:

"I knew a couple of gay people at my high school. They were constantly tormented and harassed. So the messages I received throughout all of society were, 'This is very bad.' So I kept it hidden, as most gay kids do."

Then he went to college in New Jersey:

"One night, when I enrolled at Rutgers University, my freshman year, a snowy December night, I got up my courage and I went to a meeting that was advertised in the

school newspaper for the Homophile League, which is a very antiquated term, but this was back in 1976, and I expected to find the monsters that society told me would be there, and what I found were wonderful, supportive, warm, welcoming people and I realized then I wasn't some terrible person."

Now it was Christmas vacation:

"I wanted to share the joy that I was feeling with my parents. I was finally able to be comfortable with who I was, and I shared that information with them. Their reaction was shock, disappointment."

Did they send him to a psychiatrist?

"No, because I wouldn't have gone to a psychiatrist. There was nothing wrong with me . . . It took me about six years of torment, really, to come to this position, so I wasn't going back and I wasn't going to feel badly about myself ever again on this issue." Eventually, he says, his parents came around, "because they loved me, whoever I was."

Paige often speaks in schools and in temples, including Barrington's Temple Habonim, where I first encountered him. He says his Jewishness played a large role in shaping his gay activism:

"Growing up, my parents instilled in both my sister and myself a strong sense of Jewish identity, and also we learned about the injustices that were brought upon the Jewish people throughout the ages, particularly, of course, only 50 years ago, when 25, 30 percent of the world's Jewry was eliminated from the planet. I have seen what the seeds of hatred, bigotry can do."

He no longer works—he was in the fashion industry and, for awhile, in the state Department of Administration—but he's still out speaking, often on AIDS prevention.

This past Tuesday, he was buttonholing legislators, and on Wednesday, the day of the House vote, he was at the State House again to take in the scene.

Outside the House entrance, we happened upon Linc Almond, a backer of the bill. "I want to thank you very much for your support," Paige said. In fact, he had some news for the governor. When Almond was barraged by anti-gay-rights calls on a recent Steve Kass WHJJ talk show, Paige's was the only supportive call that got through.

We went up to a House gallery and there was Eileen Gray, Paige's 66-year-old mother, sporting a button that said, "I'm straight. But not narrow."

I took her aside for a moment and asked why she was there.

"Because I believe in the bill and I'm supporting my son," she said.

Many parents would say, "It's bad enough that he's gay. Why does he have to be public about it? The last thing I want is to be public."

Gray said, "I'm his mother. I love him with all my heart and soul. I don't think there's anything wrong with him. I don't think he's 'sick.' I have become educated and wiser, hopefully, to understand that a certain percentage of the population, from the beginning of time, is born gay. What's the big deal?"

Not that it was easy for her to accept initially. She said when she first heard Marc's news, she spent a day in bed with a headache, and her daughter, three years older than the son, phoned.

"My daughter Robin called me and said, 'Mom, what's the matter?'"

"I said, 'It's Marc.'"

"She said—in a frantic voice suggesting a fear of something like cancer—'What?'"

"Marc told me he's gay."

The daughter, relieved it was only that, said, "Thank God."

That helped, Gray said.

Now Marc, with AIDS, does face a grim future. But Gray was upbeat.

"He's very good," she said. "He takes very good care of himself."

And, with medical technology, I think he's going to be here a long, long time. I truly believe that."

Now the House debate began and droned on—with exquisite odes to equality and dignity, but also with ugly, arrogant talk of gays and their so-called lifestyle that is, in some eyes, such an abomination before God.

Paige told me he had a headache. "I don't know if it's from this or the AZT I took a couple of hours ago."

He sat with a House seating diagram, with notations of the expected vote lineup, which was thought to be very close.

And then the actual tally came—passage by a surprisingly comfortable 57 to 41. Thrilled, he turned to me and said, "Wow!"

As they made their way out of the gallery, he and his mother kissed.

EXEMPLARY VA EMPLOYEES

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, our human vocabulary does not contain the words to accurately describe the horror, the sadness, the profound feelings of grief and loss we have all experienced since the April 19th bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal Building. This monstrous act—targeted at our young innocents, at the elderly seeking their Social Security benefits, at disabled veterans checking on their vocational rehabilitation or compensation benefits, at the hundreds of Federal employees laboring conscientiously to serve their fellow citizens—epitomized man's inhumanity to man. In response, we want to reach out to the injured and to the families of those who are missing or dead, and speak the words that will relieve their suffering. Knowing this is impossible we nonetheless struggle to share with these blameless victims our concern for them and the pain we feel on their behalf.

In contrast to the ugliness of the bombing, countless men and women in Oklahoma City epitomize, by their selfless heroism, courage, valor, and determination, the deep concern most of us feel for one another in this country. I am particularly proud of the extraordinary response of the Department of Veterans Affairs [VA] employees in Oklahoma City. Most of you read in the April 23, 1995, edition of the Washington Post the remarkable account of the brave actions of the VA staff who were in the Federal Building at the time of the explosion. I will not soon forget the description of Paul Heath, a VA counseling psychologist, who, having escaped the collapsed building, returned to his ruined office with a stretcher to rescue his badly-injured colleague. For the benefit of my colleagues who did not have an opportunity to read the Post article, a copy follows:

[The Washington Post, April 23, 1995]

PELTED WITH GLASS, BURIED BY WALLS, THIS
OFFICE OF EIGHT PULLED THROUGH
(By William Booth)

OKLAHOMA CITY.—They began an extraordinary day as the most ordinary of people.

On Wednesday morning at 9, they sat at their computers or leaned on their desks in the Department of Veterans Affairs' small office on the fifth floor of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. There were eight of them that morning, people similar to hundreds of thousands of federal employees across the nation.

"Just the most normal day," rehabilitation specialist Diane Dooley would recall later. "That's how the day started, just the same old, same old."

But not for long. In the time it might have taken to retrieve a file, the office was ripped in half by a massive explosion from a car bomb set off just outside the building's front entrance. Those inside were buried by an avalanche of debris or swept away in a blast of flying glass.

In the torrent, they lost fingers and eyes and ears. Their bones were broken and twisted. Some even lost their sense of where and who they were, becoming white ghosts covered in dust and blood, wandering in shock through a building filled with the dead.

Later, at least one of them would wonder why he was not more brave; another would claim they were not heroes. All of them wept. But all of them survived the bomb that went off at 9:04 a.m.

"We were so lucky," said Jim Guthrie. "I know if things had just been a little bit different, that we could all be buried out there in the rubble."

The VA office was not unlike the 14 other agencies' offices in the building. Each was filled with bureaucrats, secretaries, clients—perhaps 800 people in all that morning, now grimly divided between the survivors and the dead. Although its occupants were more fortunate than many others, the story of the VA office is in many ways the story of them all.

The eight VA employees pushed papers but they also pushed disabled veterans, helping them get jobs and benefits. They thought of themselves as a family: They told jokes, they made calls, and they filled file cabinets with stories of veterans getting ahead in life or spiraling ever downward. Of the eight workers, five were veterans themselves.

They called themselves by alphabet letters, as federal employees so often do—CPs and VRSSs and LVERS: Counseling Psychologists and Veteran Rehabilitation Specialists and Local Veteran Employment Representatives. On Wednesday morning, they were discussing their QRS, or Quality Reviews. They were busy, one recalled without irony, "re-inventing government."

Guthrie, a contracting officer's representative, stopped by the office to work on securing a dental contract for disabled veterans in nearby Lawton. He considers himself a hard worker and a trouble-shooter, who does all the "crappy little jobs" that need doing. Long and lean, divorced with kids and living in nearby Muskogee, where the central office is located, Guthrie, 44, is a former Marine, who spent 13 months ducking rockets in Da Nang, Vietnam, an experience he does not dwell on. "I don't like pity parties," he says.

The explosion, he said, was worse than anything that happened to him in Vietnam.

When Guthrie arrived at the office, he greeted everyone. He remembers that Stan Ronbaun, who worked for the state but was attached to the federal office to help find

jobs for disabled veterans, was sitting at his desk right next to the window. Ronbaun was from New York and liked jokes. He reminded people of the actor Walter Matthau.

Martin Cash, too, was in the front room, almost as exposed as Ronbaun to the large plate-glass windows on the north face of the building. Cash counseled veterans about their benefits. Nearby were John Colvin and George Denker. They helped disabled vets get loans.

Guthrie visited for a few minutes with Diane Dooley and office coordinator Paul Heath, a man who wears many hats. Heath is a psychological counselor for veterans, helping them through neurological disease or divorce or alcoholism. He has been with the VA in this office for 28 years. People call him "Doc."

The three of them—Guthrie, Dooley and Heath—talked about "nothing unusual." Heath recalls, "something about putting together a unified database for a vocational rehab unit."

Daughter of a retired Air Force sergeant, Dooley married the son of another Air Force sergeant. She started working for the VA five years ago as a clerk-typist and put herself through college, becoming what she jokingly calls "a social worker for veterans." Just as she was getting up to go to the Federal Employee Credit Union, she got a call from Dennis Jackson, her co-worker, ringing her from his cellular phone, telling her he was running late.

At 9:00, running late herself because of Jackson's call, Dooley started for the stairwell to descend to the credit union on the third floor. She never made it. She was lucky. Seventeen of the 31 employees at the credit union are believed dead.

"Just as my hand reached the door, the explosion, it went off," Dooley said, relating the story from her flower-filled bedroom after being released Friday from St. Anthony's Hospital. "I thought I had set it off. Honest to God, I believed I triggered the bomb."

Dooley was knocked on her back, her right hand and wrist smashed, her toes broken. She believes she heard a second explosion, which may have been the device itself or the front of the building collapsing. "I could hear a man, somewhere, saying, 'Help me, help me.'"

Dooley stumbled down another two flights and staggered from the building. A man kept asking: "What's your name? What's your name?"

She was bundled into a police cruiser and is believed to have been the first person in the explosion to reach a hospital. When she recovered from surgery, she kept asking her husband, Jim, about her colleagues.

Seconds before the explosion, Jim Guthrie had left the office with Bob Armstrong. A VA field investigator of fraud and, like Guthrie, a former Marine, Armstrong had served in Korea and done two tours in Vietnam.

"I felt a boom and was picked up off my feet and thrown under a water fountain, and I was thinking, that was fine, since I thought the roof was about to collapse," Guthrie said. He heard the second explosion and covered his ears.

"The smoke and dust, it was almost immediate," he said. "I couldn't breathe. I kept looking for pockets of air. We were choking and coughing."

Armstrong followed Guthrie down the same stairs Dooley had used to escape moments before, but they moved slowly, feeling their way in complete darkness. They finally emerged into the light in the back of the building, the side facing away from the bomb.

Guthrie is not sure what happened when he emerged from the building. He and Armstrong were covered in dust. "For the next three or four hours, we just wandered around," Guthrie recalled. They wanted to make phone calls, but were afraid to enter the Internal Revenue Service building nearby.

"I have never felt so helpless and disoriented," Guthrie said. While he stumbled in shock through the streets of downtown Oklahoma City, Guthrie said, he wondered what he had done with his life: "I could've been dead but I wasn't dead, but I began to imagine all the dead and all the dead before me."

When Guthrie and Armstrong emerged from the building, a woman approached screaming at them to save the children in the day-care center on the second floor.

"We didn't do anything," Guthrie recalled. "We couldn't do anything. We stood there, dazed and helpless."

While the two men stood in a daze, Paul Heath, the psychologist, was sitting at a desk in Diane Dooley's office, debris up to his armpits. "I was staring ahead and could see, where the building used to be, nothing. I could see across the street."

The front of the building fell away almost beneath Heath's feet. He sat for a second half-buried. "I mean, the roof fell on my head. Aluminum. Light fixtures. Duct work. Wiring. And I could still see what I think was the explosive, the fertilizer, popping, these little sparks, and then the black cloud rolled in."

Heath thought it must have been a natural gas explosion. He crawled over his desk and into the front room, clearing a path through the ruins. There he saw Colvin leaning over Ronbaun's crumpled body. "Stan's hurt real bad," Colvin told Heath. Martin Cash, too, was covered in blood, his left arm broken, bruised and deeply cut. Swaying on his feet, Cash announced, "I think my eye is gone." Colvin ripped off his own shirt and held it to Cash's eye. George Denker was without his glasses, fumbling around in the dark.

"I told John to stay with Stan, that we'd find a way out and come back," Heath recalled. A steady man, Colvin remained with Ronbaun while Heath and the others made it down the back stairs, remained with him even as the building groaned and continued to fall apart and the facade and ceilings gave way.

Heath returned with a stretcher, carried by a maintenance man whose name he does not remember, and Robert Roddy, who works for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Ronbaun is more than six feet tall and weighs about 265 pounds. Heath helped carry him out, pushing desks and debris out of the way, but he worried. Heath has a bad heart.

When Heath emerged from the building, the first person he met was a woman, sobbing and nearly hysterical, whose daughter had been among those in the day-care center. Heath knew the building well, serving as chief medical officer despite the fact that he did not hold a medical degree. He knew the center had taken an almost direct hit, and he feared no one could have survived.

Later, an old high school classmate whose wife worked for HUD asked for his help in searching for her. "I asked him where his wife worked, what side of the building, and when he told me. I knew he'd never find her. That floor was gone," Heath said.

Diane Dooley is home now with a smashed wrist, which probably will require bone grafts. Martin Cash is still in Presbyterian

Hospital, and it looks as if he may lose an eye. Stan Ronbaun remains at St. Anthony's Hospital and may also lose an eye. The rest of the staff is home. Heath and Guthrie were back at work on Friday at the VA's new temporary quarters at Oklahoma City's VA hospital.

Paul Heath said he does not find any cosmic significance in the bombing. He believes instead, he said, that "in my life and the life of others there are these times of extreme pain, and then there are all the good times to help you grow strong and heal." And then Heath began, very quietly, to weep.

Dooley said that when Heath visited her in the hospital, she told him she had not yet had time to cry. But she has time now.

"These veterans are going to want their checks on Monday," Dooley said, "and I don't know how I'm gonna type with one hand."

When asked what she would think if the bombers turned out to be former military men with a grudge, she sighed and said it would not surprise her. Dooley said she often thought that someday, some angry and disturbed person, even one of the veterans, might enter the federal building and start shooting. There are no metal detectors and security was light, almost nonexistent.

Guthrie said, "I am a solid person, but this whole experience has a lot of psychological effects. I'm rethinking my life. I really am. I want to spend more time with my children and maybe change some other things."

In this time when federal bureaucrats are sometimes seen as the source of everything that is wrong with the United States, Paul Heath and his colleagues ask people to remember the good that many federal workers try to do.

"We're not heroes," he said. "But I like to think that all of us try to help."

On Friday Paul Heath went back into the ruins of the Murrah building one last time. He convinced some local policemen he knew to accompany him up five flights back to his old office to retrieve his computers and his files.

He stared at the wreckage. The computer monitor on his desk had seemingly been sucked to the floor. There were overturned chairs, wires and insulation. It was an eerie experience—it unnerved him and reminded him how close he and his co-workers had come to death.

Additionally, although the director of the VA Medical Center in Oklahoma City, Mr. Steve Gentling, would assert that he and his staff were simply doing their jobs, their many contributions during the crisis merit special recognition. Although the following report is only a summary of VA activities during the early days of the crisis, it vividly demonstrates the exemplary commitment of VA employees:

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, VA MEDICAL CENTER, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

SUMMARY OF OKLAHOMA CITY VAMC ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO ALFRED P. MURRAH FEDERAL BUILDING DISASTER

As of 4:00 p.m., April 21, 1995, the VAMC had taken the following actions in response to the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Murrah building:

Received 12 casualties, beginning at 10:50 a.m. One of the casualties was a veteran; two were children, both of whom were treated and referred to Children's Hospital. Three people were admitted to the hospital and discharged on April 21.

Sent a four-person triage team to the site of the bombing immediately after the disaster occurred.

Sent 19 critical care nurses and emergency employees to the closest hospital to the disaster, St. Anthony's Hospital.

Sent triage supplies to St. Anthony's Hospital.

Sent 14 crisis intervention team members, primarily psychiatrists and psychologists, to three assistance locations—the disaster site, the American Red Cross and the First Christian Church.

At the request of the American Red Cross, sent Dr. John Tassey, Director VAMC Behavioral Medicine Service, to serve as coordinator/liaison for Oklahoma City mental health response coordination with the National American Red Cross.

Set up offices for Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) operations on the first floor of the VAMC. VBA Operations commenced at 9 a.m. on April 20.

Set up office space in the VAMC for two of the forensic teams from the Public Health Service.

VAMC Psychiatry and Psychology employees, including the Chief of Psychiatry Service, Dr. Charles Smith, answered telephones for the American Red Cross Crisis Intervention Center continuously for 36 hours.

Set up a blood donor team to identify employees with rare blood types to be prepared for requests for those blood types. Collected blood donations from donors, some of whom waited 5 hours to donate.

Sent chaplains for coverage in one of the community clinic centers set up in local churches on April 20-21.

Established a VAMC-sponsored community hotline for post-trauma counseling through the American Red Cross. The American Red Cross will issue the hotline number and the calls will be referred to VAMC staff.

Will hold two "Group Counseling" sessions on April 21 and 24 open to all VAMC employees. Will schedule additional sessions as needed.

Sent 2 VAMC pathologists to the State Medical Examiners Office for assistance.

Sent Paul Farney, VAMC Supervisory Technologist in Radiology Service, to the State Medical Examiners Office to serve as Coordinator for all city hospital radiology technicians.

Sent 2 vehicles and drivers to transport Radiology film for development at the VAMC for return to the State Medical Examiner. The effort is anticipated to continue for the next 6 days.

Assisted the State Medical Examiner's office in leasing a portable X-ray machine, and with procuring supplies and technical assistance.

Provided gowns, scrub suits, masks, gloves, and jaw stretchers to the State Medical Examiners Office.

Dick Campbell, Chief Human Resources Management, and Chairman of the Federal Personnel Council, is organizing the effort with other agencies to reconstruct the personnel records of Federal Building employees whose records were destroyed.

Providing sleeping/showing facilities for firefighters and rescue workers in the auditorium area of the Health Wing of the VAMC.

Fred Gusman, M.S.W., head of the VA Disaster Mental Health Trauma Team, will be reporting to the VAMC to provide mental health counseling/coordination.

Established Oklahoma City Family Assistance Relief Fund at the Oklahoma Federal Credit Union.

WHY WE NEED NATIONAL HEALTH CARE REFORM: \$38,696 FOR A HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, we didn't pass health care reform last Congress, but the need for it didn't go away.

I've just received a letter from a midwestern family, which shows how the Nation's insurance companies continue to behave in an irresponsible and capricious manner. This family of four, which says they have less than average health care expenses, had been using the COBRA health continuation provisions for 18 months at an annual rate of \$5,556.97. With COBRA expiring, they wrote Connecticut General Life Insurance Co. to ask about converting to an individual rate policy.

Following is their letter describing what happened. The company sent them a printed sheet in which they were invited to continue for the annual rate of \$38,696.

Mr. Speaker, Connecticut General obviously has no interest in writing policies for individuals. It met the letter of the law requiring that COBRA enrollees be offered a conversion policy—but their offer is a joke and an insult.

When the Nation's insurance companies display this type of behavior, they are just re-fanning the flames for health care reform.

The letter follows:

APRIL 21, 1995.

Re health care cost reform.

Hon. PETE STARK,
Subcommittee on Health, Ways and Means Committee, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN STARK: I am writing to you because I believe you would want information like this to help you make informed judgments on health care issues that not only affect me and my family, but affect millions of other people.

I believe it is federal law that requires insurance companies to offer group medical conversion policies to individuals when they are no longer eligible to be part of the group. Surely that legislation didn't intend to allow for an insurance company, in this case Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, to increase a family's premium from \$5,556.97 per year to \$38,696.00 (over 590% increase) with a higher deductible (\$500) and lower R&B daily limit (\$250).

I paid a monthly premium of \$463.08 for eighteen months after leaving my teaching position. When I was informed that I was no longer eligible for the group, I requested and received the enclosed conversion quotes. I am sure that Connecticut General Life Insurance Company's attorneys have assured them that they are within the law when they quoted such an unjust rate.

I would hope that Congress would review and modify any legislation that requires health insurance companies to offer conversion policies, but allows them to do so in such an unconscionable way.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure.
CONNECTICUT GENERAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, A GROUP MEDICAL CONVERSION QUOTE—QUARTERLY PREMIUMS

Rate quote for: _____.

Your age: 54.
 Your spouse status: Yes, age: 47.
 You have: 2 children.
 Today is: 03/02/95.
 Effective date: 03/01/95.
 Your ZIP: —

QUARTERLY COMPREHENSIVE PREMIUMS¹

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| R&B daily limit | \$100 | \$150 | \$200 | \$250 |
| Surgical maximum | 4,500 | 6,000 | 7,500 | 9,000 |
| Deductible: | | | | |
| \$100 | 9,959 | 10,363 | 10,787 | 11,208 |
| \$250 | 9,316 | 9,694 | 10,091 | 10,485 |
| \$500 | 8,596 | 8,945 | 9,310 | 9,674 |
| \$1,000 | 7,918 | 8,239 | 8,576 | 8,910 |
| \$2,000 | 6,915 | 7,195 | 7,490 | 7,782 |

¹ Choose the benefit provisions from the top of the chart with the deductible from the side of the chart to determine the premium for your particular plan.

QUARTERLY HOSPITAL/SURGICAL PREMIUMS¹

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Hospital only: | | | | |
| R&B daily limit | \$100 | \$150 | \$200 | \$250 |
| Premium | 2,781 | 3,357 | 3,828 | 4,189 |
| Surgical only: | | | | |
| Surgical maximum | 2,400 | 3,600 | 4,800 | 6,000 |
| Premium | 159 | 238 | 317 | 396 |
| Hospital and surgical: | | | | |
| R&B daily limit | 100 | 150 | 200 | 250 |
| Surgical maximum | 2,400 | 3,600 | 4,800 | 6,000 |
| Premium | 2,940 | 3,595 | 4,145 | 4,585 |

¹ Choose hospital only, surgical only, or hospital and surgical as indicated to determine the premium based on the benefit provisions.

PI KAPPA DELTA NATIONAL
TOURNAMENT

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize an outstanding group of students from Central Missouri State University's forensics team. The forensics team recently won the national 39th biannual Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament. The tournament was held from March 22-25, 1995 at Louisiana State University in Shreveport.

Pi Kappa Delta is a national honorary fraternity that symbolizes the benefits of a forensics education. Twenty-three students represented Central Missouri State University in the competition. The team placed first in debate and second in individual events, winning 32 individual event awards. This is the first national championship in the team's 73-year history.

I know that the Members of this body join me in congratulating the Central Missouri State University forensics team for their accomplishment. The students on the forensics team should be applauded for all the hard work, dedication, and perseverance it took to win the tournament.

UNITED STATES SPONSORS WAIT
FOR UNACCOMPANIED HAITIAN
CHILDREN

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, few things are as traumatic for a child as being

abandoned. However, for the past 9 months, 249 unaccompanied Haitian children have been detained in a hot, dusty refugee camp at the United States Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The plight of these children demands the attention of every American.

I want to share with my colleagues an article that appeared in this morning's New York Times which describes the plight of these unfortunate, minor children, who have waited for months—and possibly will have to wait several more months—while the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees tries to find homes for them in Haiti.

This article details the harsh, impermanent life that these children face in the camp, despite the best efforts of dedicated U.S. military personnel to help make the best of a bad situation. I urge all my colleagues to read this article.

The United States would not tolerate such treatment for our children. In fact, the United States does not treat Cuban children at Guantanamo in this manner. The time has come for the United States to end this kind of treatment to Haitian children at Guantanamo, too.

At Guantanamo, these children are alone, vulnerable and depressed. However, many of these children have relatives living in the United States who are ready and willing to care for them. Religious and community groups in Miami have volunteered to provide whatever resources are necessary to insure that no child would become a public charge and that each would be fully supported.

Mr. Speaker, children belong in homes, not camps. The time has come to close this camp and insure these children a decent place in which to live where they are wanted, loved, nurtured and properly cared for. The Justice Department needs to change its policies to make this possible.

[From the New York Times, May 1, 1995]

MANY HAITIAN CHILDREN VIEW CAMP'S LIMBO
AS PERMANENT

(By Mireya Navarro)

GUANTANAMO BAY, Cuba.—In a neat corner of a tent at the United States Naval Base here, an assortment of personal items had been tightly arranged on two cardboard boxes that served as a night stand: lotion to protect against the relentless Caribbean sun, detergent to hand-wash laundry, and M&M's and Tootsie Rolls.

The occupant who calls that corner home is a 13-year-old boy, and what he lacked was shoes. He is among 249 Haitian children who have been held in one of 14 refugee camps here since last summer while American officials decide, case by case, whether to allow them into the United States or send them back to Haiti. As the weeks drag on, shoes and clothes donated by relief organizations are sometimes in short supply.

So, the boy said, he has skipped school for five days while he goes barefoot. He was too embarrassed to do otherwise.

"He doesn't want to go to school without shoes; it's understandable," said Capt. Michael Dvoracek, the Army officer who oversees the Haitian children's camp, operated by a joint military task force. "We'd love to get more shoes and clothes. They are growing kids, and it doesn't take long for them to go through a pair of shoes when they do get them."

At a portable Air Force hospital, another "unaccompanied minor" from Haiti, a teen-

ager named Marie-Carole Celestin, awaited a decision on her future, with a badly injured right hip. She was summoned to the hospital the other day with all her belongings because her doctors had recommended that she be sent to the United States for surgery that could not be performed here.

But for the third time the Justice Department said no. Her pediatrician, Lieut. Col. Nadege Maletz, said that because Marie-Carole's hip injury had existed before she left Haiti and was not considered acute, she had not been deemed eligible for treatment in the United States. But Colonel Maletz said she would make another appeal. In the meantime, she said, the girl's discomfort has kept her from sleeping at night, and so she will be sent back to the camp with painkillers.

The children, most from 14 to 17 years old but some as young as 2 months, are among the last 480 of 21,000 Haitians who were settled in the refugee camps here after they fled political violence in their homeland last year.

Most of the adults were repatriated beginning last November, shortly after the Rev. Jean-Bertrand Aristide was restored to the presidency. But scores of children remain here while the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees and other organizations trace relatives to make certain that the young Haitians have a proper home when they either return to their country or, for very few, make it to the United States.

The base provides the children clothing, food and schooling. But the tent city where they live is dusty, the supplies of donated items like shoes are haphazard, medical care is limited, and spirits are low.

As with most of the Haitian children here—who are believed to have close relatives remaining in Haiti, where the political situation is still somewhat unsettled—the barefoot 13-year-boy was allowed to speak to a reporter on the condition that his name not be published. "I'm alone here," he said. "I don't feel good here. It's been nine months."

The United States houses Haitian and Cuban refugees separately here—there are 2 camps for Haitians, 12 for Cubans—and also, say advocates for the Haitian children, treats them unequally. While a revision in American policy has reopened the door to entry to the United States fairly wide for Cuban children, particularly those who are unaccompanied by their parents here, that door remains almost entirely closed to young Haitians.

Alleging discrimination, lawyers for the Haitian Refugee Center in Miami have filed a petition asking the United States Supreme Court to order that the Haitian children be admitted.

The lawyers note that the Clinton Administration is reviewing the cases even of Cuban children who are in the care of their parents here, but for whom a long stay at Guantanamo would constitute "an extraordinary hardship." This, they argue, amounts to saying that refugee camps that are hard on Cuban children are adequate for Haitian children.

American officials explain the differences in treatment by saying that Haitians as a whole can now return home to a democracy, an option the Cubans do not have. And better to keep the Haitian children here for the time being, they say, than to send them to an unknown fate before their relatives can be found back in their country.

"I don't know how we can run a more humane policy," said Brig. Gen. John J. Allen,

the Air Force officer who commands the camps.

How did Haitian youths wind up alone here? Why had they set out on their dangerous voyage alone? In some cases, advocates say, because their parents had been killed in Haiti, in others because they represented a family's hope of riches in America.

Whatever the case, tracing relatives has been hampered not only because of all the logistical and communications problems entailed in reaching remote areas of the children's little homeland but also because the children often provide inaccurate or insufficient information about their families—sometimes intentionally, in an effort to avoid being sent back.

Since November, when the tracing began, only about 70 of the youths have been placed in Haiti—or "aged out" as they turn 18, at which point most are repatriated. Even the most optimistic estimates foresee most of them remaining here through the summer.

Very few of the Haitian children—23 so far—have been allowed into the United States. These are children who had parents there or had medical problems deemed life-threatening.

At the portable hospital, Colonel Maletz said this policy had meant, for instance, that a diabetic girl and an H.I.V.-infected boy with a lung ailment had been allowed to immigrate, while four children who need surgery for cataracts and other eye problems had not, even in cases that posed a risk of vision loss.

As the camps for Haitians are phased out and the camps for Cubans become more nearly permanent, the Cubans are afforded improvements that the Haitians lack.

An increasing number of Cubans are sheltered now in sturdier "strong-back" tents with wooden floors and window screens, for instance. There are also plans to allow them visits from relatives in the United States. Neither step is being considered for the Haitian children, simply because they are not expected to be here beyond a few more months.

Still, recent additions to Camp 9, a former airfield where the children live in 24 tents with 20 Haitian adults known as "house parents," include a playground for small children, a basketball hoop and an open area for soccer and volleyball. A suspended cargo parachute provides shade for a gathering place, as does a huge tree where a dozen boys sat on picnic tables the other day, hanging out.

The Haitian youths are expected to rise at 6 A.M. and go to bed at 10 P.M. Their responsibilities consist of attending school, doing their own laundry, keeping the camp clean and helping with chores like serving food.

Teen-agers, eight of whom have become pregnant since arriving at the camp, receive contraceptives. They also have adult education classes. (A sign on a bulletin board summoned, in Creole: "Women Only! To discuss quality of life in camp. Types of activities you want. Types of supplies you need. What's important to you.")

On one recent day, seven teenagers were on "administrative segregation" in another camp, most of them for fights during which they "took a swing" at an intervening soldier or camp worker, Captain Dvoracek said. But he minimized any such problems, saying that "the vast majority are great kids."

Around the camp, the children's main complaint is uncertainty of the future. Mental health workers here say that most of the children are handling their stay well but

that many suffer from adjustment disorders like depression.

When the 13-year-old barefoot boy heard that children in the neighboring camps for Cubans were being flown to the United States, he told his keepers that his mother was Cuban. Switching from Haitian Creole to fluent Spanish, he said his father, a Haitian, had not liked Cuba and so had taken him to Haiti when he was 8, leaving his mother behind.

He said he did not want to go to Cuba, because Cuban refugees had already warned him that things were bad there. And he said he did not want to go back to Haiti, where, he said, he saw his father shot to death by "guards" in 1994 "because they thought he worked with Aristide." His hope, he said, is an uncle in Florida whom he has tried to call but whose telephone has been disconnected.

Sitting on a cot in his neat corner in the tent, bent over with elbows on his thighs, he spoke in an irritated tone. He said he passed the time sleeping, attending school and thinking about "my father, who died." If he makes it to the United States, he said, he wants to learn English and study to be a doctor and a journalist.

He said he was still waiting for a response to his contention that he is half Cuban.

"We want to leave, too," he said.

MEDWAY-GRAPEVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF FIGHTING GREENE COUNTY FIRES

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, those who have visited my office have probably noticed the display of fire helmets which dominates the reception area. The hats hang in that prominent position for two reasons.

First, I had the privilege of serving as a volunteer firefighter in my hometown of Queensbury for over 20 years. During that time, I gained a great amount of respect and appreciation for the selfless volunteers who devote their time and energy to protecting our rural areas from the devastation of fire. This immense admiration is the second reason for the location of my hat collection.

In rural areas such as the many small towns in the 22d district of New York, fire protection is more often than not solely the responsibility of volunteer firemen such as those of the Medway-Grapeville Volunteer Fire Company. These dedicated individuals have saved countless lives and billions of dollars worth of property in New York State alone. And the Medway-Grapeville Volunteer Fire Company exemplifies the kind of heroism which makes volunteer firefighters such an important part of our local communities.

During my years as a volunteer fireman, I noticed some extraordinary things about my company. Its members were among the most varied groups of people I have encountered before or since. There were teachers, doctors, and farmers, just to name a few of the many walks of life represented. Despite their many differences, however, these volunteers had two very important things in common—a strong desire to help their fellow neighbors in

times of trouble, and an unwavering commitment to perform their duties at any time, day or night, whenever they were needed. I know that my experience was not a unique one, and that the volunteers of the Medway-Grapeville Company are equally dedicated to and superbly skilled in their most crucial roles as community protectors.

Mr. Speaker, on May 6, the Medway-Grapeville will celebrate its 50th year of service to Greene County. I would now ask that all Members join me in paying tribute to the Medway-Grapeville Volunteer Fire Company, as it celebrates a half-century of firefighting excellence.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 1995, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 3

9:00 a.m.

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on the Marine Corps modernization programs and current operations.

SR-232A

Budget

To hold hearings to examine Medicare solvency.

SD-608

9:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Financial Institutions and Regulatory Relief Subcommittee

To continue hearings on S. 650, to increase the amount of credit available to fuel local, regional, and national economic growth by reducing the regulatory burden imposed upon financial institutions.

SD-538

Finance

To hold hearings on the alternative minimum tax.

SD-215

10:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Agriculture. SD-138

Environment and Public Works
 Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
 Business meeting, to mark up S. 440, to provide for the designation of the National Highway System. SD-406

2:00 p.m.
 Foreign Relations
 European Affairs Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine NATO enlargement, focusing on interest and perceptions of allies, applicants and Russia. SD-419

Select on Intelligence
 Closed business meeting, to consider pending intelligence matters. SH-219

2:15 p.m.
 Judiciary
 Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine antitrust issues as contained in proposals to reform the telecommunications industry. SD-G50

2:30 p.m.
 Armed Services
 Airland Forces Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine peace operations. SR-222

MAY 4

9:00 a.m.
 Budget
 To continue hearings to examine Medicare solvency. SD-608

Environment and Public Works
 Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment Subcommittee
 To resume oversight hearings on the implementation of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. SD-406

Labor and Human Resources
 To hold hearings to examine primary health care services, focusing on access to care in a changing health care delivery system. SD-430

9:30 a.m.
 Finance
 To hold hearings on the proposed vaccines for children program. SD-215

10:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Transportation Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation. SD-192

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee
 To hold oversight hearings to review the high performance computing and communications program and a demonstration of the World Wide Web. SR-253

Foreign Relations
 To hold hearings to examine the incidence of illegal trade in human body parts in China. SH-216

Governmental Affairs
 Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
 To resume hearings to review the Navy class oiler contract. SD-342

10:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Foreign Operations Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for foreign assistance programs. SD-138

2:00 p.m.
 Appropriations
 Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the United States Postal Service and the Office of Management and Budget. SD-138

Armed Services
 To hold closed and open hearings on S. 727, authorizing funds for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. SR-222

Foreign Relations
 Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine U.S. assistance programs in the Middle East. SD-419

Judiciary
 To hold hearings on the nominations of Peter C. Economus, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, John Garvan Murtha, to be United States District Judge for the District of Vermont, Mary Beck Briscoe, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, and George A. O'Toole Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts. SD-226

MAY 5

9:00 a.m.
 Armed Services
 Acquisition and Technology Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on S. 727, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, and to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 1996, focusing on the implications of the revolution in military affairs. SR-232A

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on issues of waste, fraud and abuse in the Medicare program. SD-192

Joint Economic
 To hold hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for April. SD-106

10:30 a.m.
 Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
 Briefing on media and press developments underway in Serbia, Kosovo and Vojvodina. 2200 Rayburn Building

MAY 8

10:00 a.m.
 Budget
 Business meeting, to mark up a proposed concurrent resolution on the fiscal year 1996 budget for the Federal Government. SH-216

Governmental Affairs
 Post Office and Civil Service Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to review the implementation of the Ramspeck Act, which allows congressional employees to transfer to executive branch positions under certain circumstances, focusing on procedures and restrictions of the law. SD-342

MAY 9

9:00 a.m.
 Armed Services
 Personnel Subcommittee
 Readiness Subcommittee
 To hold joint hearings on S. 727, authorizing funds for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, and the future years defense program, focusing on military family housing issues. SR-232A

9:45 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Defense, focusing on National Guard and Reserve programs. SD-192

MAY 11

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Transportation Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation. SD-192

Labor and Human Resources
 Disability Policy Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation relating to the education of individuals with disabilities. SD-430

Rules and Administration
 To hold hearings to examine management guidelines for the future of the Smithsonian Institution. SD-106

Special on Aging
 To hold hearings to examine ways the private sector can assist in making long term care more affordable and accessible. SD-562

10:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Interior Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior. SD-116

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on the Agency for International Development.

SR-325

1:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-116

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine access to abortion clinics.

SD-138

MAY 12

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Environmental Protection Agency, the Council on Environmental Quality, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

SD-192

MAY 16

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Defense, focusing on environmental programs.

SD-192

Commerce, Science, and Transportation Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine NASA's space shuttle and reusable launch vehicle programs.

SR-253

Labor and Human Resources

Disability Policy Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine proposed legislation relating to the education of individuals with disabilities.

SD-430

MAY 17

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the National Academy of Public Administration's study on the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-G50

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

SD-192

2:00 p.m.

Armed Services

Acquisition and Technology Subcommittee

To resume hearings on S. 727, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996

for military activities of the Department of Defense, and to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 1996, focusing on dual-use technology programs.

SR-232A

MAY 18

9:30 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To resume hearings to examine management guidelines for the future of the Smithsonian Institution.

SD-106

Small Business

To hold hearings to examine the Small Business Administration's 7(a) business loan program.

SD-628

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the recommendations of the Joint Department of the Interior/Bureau of Indian Affairs/Tribal Task Force on Reorganization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

SR-4485

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for foreign assistance programs.

SH-216

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-192

MAY 19

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-192

MAY 23

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Defense, focusing on financial management.

SD-192

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 479, to provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups.

SR-485

MAY 24

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

SD-192

JUNE 6

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Defense, focusing on intelligence programs.

S-407, Capitol

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-138

JUNE 7

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Service and the Selective Service System.

SD-192

JUNE 13

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Defense, focusing on health programs.

SD-192

JUNE 20

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Defense, focusing on counternarcotic programs.

SD-192

JUNE 27

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

CANCELLATIONS

MAY 5

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on General Services Administration activities on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration consolidation project, the proposed Federal Communications Commission lease consolidation, and the U.S. Patent Trademark Office consolidation.

SD-406